



Our first care is your health care
ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

Janet Napolitano, Governor
Anthony D. Rodgers, Director

801 East Jefferson, Phoenix AZ 85034
PO Box 25520, Phoenix AZ 85002
Phone 602-417-4000
www.azahcccs.gov

Important Notice About the Medical Expense Deduction Program

July 15, 2008

You recently received a letter notifying you that your medical benefits through the SSDI Temporary Medical Coverage program are ending because of lack of funding. We would like to provide you with some information about another AHCCCS program that may be able to help you with your medical expenses.

The Medical Expense Deduction (MED) program is administered by the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES). The MED program provides AHCCCS coverage to individuals or families whose income exceeds 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) but who have high medical expenses that reduce their countable income to less than 40% of the FPL.

Unlike the SSDI Temporary Medical Coverage program, the MED program has an asset test. The equity value of your assets cannot exceed \$100,000. Liquid assets like financial accounts, stocks, bonds, cash, or other accounts may not equal more than \$5,000 of the \$100,000 total.

When you apply for this program, your DES worker will total the income that you received for a three-month period. Then, your medical expenses for a three month period, **paid or unpaid**, are subtracted from your total income for the three months.

Medical expenses can be subtracted from your income only if you are responsible to pay those expenses. Those expenses that will be paid for by a health insurance company or other source cannot be deducted.

If you are found eligible for MED, you will not be required to pay a premium to be eligible for the program. However, there are co-pays for a small number of services. There is a \$1 co-pay for doctor office visits and non-emergency use of an emergency room.

Persons found eligible for MED receive full AHCCCS medical services, including prescriptions.

Since your recent medical expenses have been covered by the SSDI Temporary Medical Coverage program, you probably will not have enough medical expenses to qualify you for the MED program at this time. However, you may have enough medical expenses to qualify in the future.

To get more information, contact the SSDI Temporary Medical Coverage Unit at (602) 417-6692. You can also contact DES to get more information, locate your local DES office or get an application. To do so, please visit the DES website at www.azdes.gov or call their 24-hour automated line at (602) 542-9935 (if calling from area code 602, 480 or 623) or 1-(800) 352-8401.

Si Usted no puede leer inglés, y necesita ayuda para comprender esta carta, por favor llame al 602-417-6692.